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2013/08/22 : CIA-RDP86T00268R000700150023-6

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23 March 1961

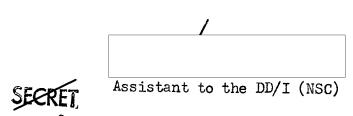
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Developments in the Field of Disarmament

I talked with Bob Matteson on Tuesday to bring myself up to date on recent developments. He made the following points:

- 1. There is a difference between Stevenson on the one hand and McCloy on the other hand regarding the U. S. approach to disarmament. McCloy is supported by Finletter and Acheson. According to Matteson, McCloy spent a large part of a recent meeting with Finletter complaining about Stevenson's views.
  - a. Stated in extreme form, McCloy's position is that we must first develop a peaceful world and then proceed in the disarmament field, whereas Stevenson is willing to take the disarmament plunge immediately.
  - b. According to Matteson, this difference appears to be sharper than it actually is. McCloy really wants to move towards a peaceful world and at the same time toward disarmament, i.e., the two come together. Stevenson's position would, presumably, not be drastically different from this.

- 2. There is also disagreement on organization. Rusk wants to have our disarmament activity under the State Department, and McCloy prefers that it be part of the Executive Office. Rusk is supported by McNamara who takes his cue from Nitze. Nuestadt originally favored State control. He now seems to favor an organization in the Executive Office which would eventually revert to State.
- 3. Matteson told McCloy last Friday during a briefing that the Soviets no longer insist on a specific time period—four years—for reaching general and complete disarmament. They are now willing to talk about timing for individual phases or measures. He also told McCloy that the Soviets no longer insisted on an automatic transition from stage to stage but would buy a supervisory organization, possibly the Security Council, which would have to declare that a particular stage had been carried out. The U. S. would have a veto on such a declaration. Matteson remarked that in spite of this briefing, McCloy keeps backsliding into believing that the Soviets retain their old attitudes on these matters. He also continues to mininterpret Stevenson's position which, as noted above, is not really so different from McCloy's as McCloy sometimes thinks.
- 4. McCloy is planning to bring Eaton down to participate in the present work on disarmament. He has not yet decided, however, on who the negotiator will be, although it will not be McCloy himself.
- 5. Nobody is quite sure about how the negotiations on a nuclear test ban will go.



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